

THE CITY OF CLAYTON

Board of Aldermen
Virtual Zoom Meeting
July 13, 2021
7:00 p.m.

Minutes

NOTE: In accord with the provisions of Section 610.015, RSMo., and multiple declarations of emergency at every level of government, and the prohibition on gatherings of 10 or more persons due to the Coronavirus pandemic, normal requirements for voting in the Board meeting were suspended. Accordingly, votes were taken as if all Board members were physically present and in attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order and requested a roll call. The following individuals were in attendance:

Aldermen: Rich Lintz, Ira Berkowitz, Bridget McAndrew, Susan Buse, and Becky Patel.

Mayor Harris
City Manager Gipson
City Attorney O'Keefe

Motion made by Alderman McAndrew to approve the June 22, 2021 minutes. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PETITIONS

Rick Bliss, citizen, inquired about the Centene art wall update. He noted that the last posted (City's website) minutes for the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) was May 2017.

Mayor Harris provided an update explaining with regard to Tower B (the west-facing wall) Centene has hired a public art consultant which is the same consultant that worked with the City on the James Surls' art project. The consultant will manage the entire project which will create public engagement around the options that are available. PAAC recently met to discuss options and she has also met with a select few citizens who live in proximity of Centene to also discuss the options. The consultant brought forward five artists, a committee that involved Centene representatives and herself looked at the options and selected two out of the five artists, and they will meet and present to Mr. Neidorff. One of Centene's requests was to have an abstract piece.

Mr. Bliss commented that he is glad to know that there is progress being made.

A PUBLIC HEARING & A RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR A VETERINARY CLINIC LOCATED AT 920 SOUTH BRENTWOOD BOULEVARD

Mayor Harris opened the public hearing and requested proof of publication.

Andrea Muskopf, Assistant to the City Manager, reported that this is a public hearing to consider an application for a Conditional Use Permit submitted by Seth Williams of MetroVet St. Louis to allow the establishment of a new veterinary clinic located at 920 South Brentwood Boulevard. The subject property has a zoning designation of High Density Commercial District.

The proposed veterinary clinic would occupy approximately 2,688 square feet of space in the current building. Parking is provided on the site, with 21 existing spaces provided between the subject site and the adjacent accompanying parking lot located at 914 South Brentwood Boulevard, which serves the subject site. The proposed hours of operation are 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Thursday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Friday, and 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday. The clinic will be closed on Sundays. The proposed facility provides primary care veterinary medicine and surgery services and not animal boarding or daycare type services. Animals will only be at the facility for an extended stay necessary due to a medical condition. There are no outdoor activities, such as a dog yard, proposed by the applicant.

In response to the Board's questions, Seth Williams, owner, addressed stated that it is a long-time dream to expand the business to Clayton. The building will undergo renovations to be high quality and modern. They are planning on opening in late December 2021 or early January 2022. The current plan for staffing is one veterinarian, himself and after the first year to add an additional veterinarian, and possibly have up to three or four total. They will provide a limited amount of retail (food, toys), but it would be very minimal.

Alderman Buse commented that Clayton has always loved animals and welcomed the business to the community.

Mayor Harris closed the public hearing.

Motion made by Alderman Lintz to approve Res. No. 2021-11, a Conditional Use Permit for MetroVet St. Louis for a new veterinary clinic located at 920 South Brentwood. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE EXTENDING THE SPECIAL EVENT SIGNS PILOT PROGRAM

Andrea Muskopf, Assistant to the City Manager, reported that this is an ordinance approving a 2-year extension of the special event signs program until July 13, 2023, or until the City's sign code is amended to allow special event signs of a similar nature

Alderman Lintz introduced Bill No. 6849, to approve extending the pilot program for Special Event Signage to be read for the first time by title only. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

City Attorney O'Keefe reads Bill No. 6849, first reading, an Ordinance Authorizing an Extension of a Program to Assess the Benefits and Risks of Allowing Expanded Signage Opportunities During Special Retail Events by title only.

The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Motion made by Alderman Lintz that the Board give unanimous consent to consideration for adoption of Bill No. 6849 on the day of its introduction. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Alderman Lintz introduced Bill No. 6849, to approve extending the pilot program for Special Event Signage to be read for the second time by title only. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

City Attorney O'Keefe reads Bill No. 6849, second reading, an Ordinance Authorizing an Extension of a Program to Assess the Benefits and Risks of Allowing Expanded Signage Opportunities During Special Retail Events by title only.

The motion passed on a roll call vote: Alderman Lintz – Aye; Alderman Berkowitz – Aye; Alderman Buse – Aye; Alderman McAndrew – Aye; Alderman Patel – Aye; and Mayor Harris – Aye. The bill, having received majority approval was adopted and became Ordinance No. 6709 of the City of Clayton.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITIES OF BRENTWOOD, MAPLEWOOD AND RICHMOND HEIGHTS, MISSOURI TO PROVIDE A SHARED TRAINING OFFICER

Andrea Muskopf, Assistant to the City Manager, reported that due to technical advances in firefighting, the growing complexity of emergency medical responses, threats from hazardous materials, and other factors, the expertise required of firefighters, EMT's and paramedics has never been greater.

In 2016, the cities of Brentwood, Clayton and Maplewood determined that it is a challenge for the cities to provide required training necessary at a reasonable cost. An agreement with said cities was executed and a Battalion Chief-Training Officer position was created and is dedicated solely to the training and development of firefighters, paramedics, and other personnel of the fire departments of Brentwood, Clayton, and Maplewood.

The success of this program over the years generated interest by the City of Richmond Heights and they have requested entry to this program. With unanimous agreement with all City Managers and approval by their respective Board of Aldermen, this new Agreement will become effective July 1, 2021.

In response to the Board's questions, Chief Paul Mercurio stated that currently Jason Hildebrandt (stationed at the Maplewood site) is the training officer with adjunct training assistants. Training takes place at all the engine houses. He added that this is another example of a success story of departments working together and he hopes to expand the program to add other municipalities.

Alderman Lintz introduces Bill No. 6850, to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Cities of Brentwood, Maplewood, and Richmond Heights to provide a shared training officer to be read for the first time by title only. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

City Attorney O’Keefe reads Bill No. 6850, first reading, an Ordinance Approving the Agreement with the Cities of Brentwood, Maplewood and Richmond Heights, Missouri to provide a shared training officer by title only.

The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Motion made by Alderman Lintz that the Board give unanimous consent to consideration for adoption of Bill No. 6850 on the day of its introduction. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Alderman Lintz introduces Bill No. 6850, to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Cities of Brentwood, Maplewood, and Richmond Heights to provide a shared training officer to be read for the second time by title only. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

City Attorney O’Keefe reads Bill No. 6850, second reading, an Ordinance Approving the Agreement with the Cities of Brentwood, Maplewood and Richmond Heights, Missouri to provide a shared training officer by title only.

The motion passed on a roll call vote: Alderman Lintz – Aye; Alderman Berkowitz – Aye; Alderman Buse – Aye; Alderman McAndrew – Aye; Alderman Patel – Aye; and Mayor Harris – Aye. The bill, having received majority approval was adopted and became Ordinance No. 6710 of the City of Clayton.

A RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER APPROVING THE FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN FOR INCLUSION IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 PROPOSED BUDGET DOCUMENT

Andrea Muskopf, Assistant to the City Manager, reported that at the June 18, 2021, discussion session, staff presented the Board of Aldermen with the recommendations for the funded projects in the five-year Capital Improvements Plan (fiscal years 2022 – 2026). After discussion regarding specific projects, the Board made no changes to the recommended project list at that meeting.

The Capital Improvements Plan, once approved, will be incorporated into the proposed City budget document and will be a part of the public hearing process prior to budget approval.

Janet Watson, Director of Finance and Administration, confirmed as previously reported by Andrea Muskopf, that the projects’ list has not changed and is the same as presented at the June 18 meeting where the Board made no changes. The listing of projects will be funded over the next five years. She noted that there was also a list of significant unfunded projects which were not included but mentioned at the meetings. Those projects were discussed as major projects, but unfunded – the Public Works and Parks facilities, the multi-use facility in Shaw Park, and some major street lighting projects. The public will also have an opportunity for questions during the public hearing budget set for the September meeting.

Mayor Harris reiterated that this list takes us out through 2026 and it does not have any project(s) that requires a bond; it does not have a major project (i.e., multi-use facility, a new Public Works facility, major street lighting projects). She stated that there may have been some confusion about the projects’ list and wanted to re-emphasize so that everyone understood.

Alderman Lintz stated for clarification purposes that what the Board is agreeing to is the proposed list that will go into the budget for FY2022 and the years going out beyond which obviously gets approved each budget year as it comes along. He stressed that this is a planning document going for the “outer” years and not necessarily something that is being written in stone.

Janet Watson confirmed Alderman Lintz’ statement, noting to prevent future confusion, the City will have some bond issuances in the future, over the next several months, because there are some current bond issuances that can be refunded or refinanced to save funds, but they will not include these projects.

In response to Alderman McAndrew’s question regarding the bonds, Janet Watson explained that the City has an older (2011) issuance where we can save some funds on that will come due as a call date; there is a 2014 General Obligation bond that has a property tax support to it and since 2014 the rates have fallen considerably to which there is a large savings available to refinance.

Motion made by Alderman Lintz to approve Resolution No. 2021-12, the Five (5)-Year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) for the FY2022 proposed budget. Alderman Berkowitz seconded.

The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Mayor Harris asked that the approved project list is placed on the City’s website.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk